



Graduate Medical Education

Newsletter for Naval Medical Center Portsmouth Alumni, Faculty, and Trainees

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Have a GME/Research success story you'd like to see highlighted?

Contact the GME office at (757)-953-0063 or 0064

Message from the DME

(Director for Medical Education)

Welcome to NMCP's inaugural GME newsletter! Inside, you will find news about the important events that have transpired over the past academic year, as well as information about each of our GME programs. The goal of this newsletter is to promote an awareness of the rich academic environment that exists at NMCP, and to help our alumni (both graduates and former teachers) stay connected with the institution.

The past year was eventful to say the least! In the fall of 2002, the Executive Steering Committee (ESC) revised the command Mission Statement to reflect a renewed vision of making NMCP... "the center of healthcare excellence in GME, research and professional growth." "GME and Research" was officially deemed a foundation upon which pillars of the institution would stand. Exciting discussions by the ESC of expanded services (CT surgery) and new residency programs (radiology and urology) led the ESC to conclude that the time was ripe for NMCP to come into its own as a robust tertiary care medical and academic center.

Coincidental to this was the ESC's approval of a team led by Suad Jones to promote our academic image to ourselves and to our patients. The tangible beginnings of this effort include the Excellence in Service and Excellence in GME awards displayed in the heart of the hospital, the Scholarly Activity boards in patient care areas, (page 7) as well as this GME newsletter. Look for more happening in this area as we continue to paint our walls "Academic"!

Also covered in this inaugural issue - the renovation of historic Building One and the opening of the new Health Sciences Library. These celebrated events rounded out the medical center's impressive facilities and connect us with our past heritage.



Captain Kevin J. Knoop, Director for Medical Education

Our 18th annual CIRD Research Competition was a huge success this past spring! From this success came another first - research poster presentations were displayed in the commons areas where patients and staff at large could see the results of our research. (pages 4-5)

Please take a minute to read about some of our academic highlights, which include prestigious national recognition, and accolades of many of our programs and faculty. An impressive list of our publications over the last year can be found inside.

In the midst of the academic year, many of our staff deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Our programs continued without a hiccup, and both our programs and residents benefited from a host of reservists who brought in fresh ideas and experiences.

Finally, our 2003 internship class marked a milestone event in their careers on Graduation Day! Despite the heat, this was one of the best graduations yet! Brig. Gen. Moore gave a rousing speech to this group of new graduates that I'm sure will color their experiences as they serve the fleet in the years ahead. (page 6-7)

"Preparing the Next Generation of Military Medical Healthcare Leaders"

Rededication Marks Completion of Building One Renovations

By Jean L. Bonnette

The Navy's "First and Finest" marked another milestone on October 11, 2002. Thanks to an \$18 million renovation, Building One has undergone a complete renewal. Work began in August 1999, following the opening of the Charette Health Care Center, to convert the building from clinical space to administrative



offices for the commander and hospital staff. The renovation includes a beautiful new library and areas for patient records. The painstaking process involved restoration of the original architectural details including exterior sandstone, wood trim, and the entrance staircase. The project also required asbestos and lead abatement, structural upgrades, and the addition of new heating and

cooling systems.

Rear Adm. Clinton E. Adams and his distinguished guests stood before the front step with a backdrop of flags from all fifty states. Guests for the event included The Honorable Owen Pickett, retired U.S. Congressman from Virginia; Rear Adm. David Architzel, Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic; and Rear Adm. Katherine Martin, Deputy Surgeon General.

Homage was paid to the history of the building with the raising of a 24-star flag. The 24-star flag was flown during the 1830s, when Building One was originally dedicated. Civil War re-enactors set up encampments to honor the military surgeon and the carpenter. Guides dressed in period costume took visitors and staff on tours of the building with the highlight being a tour of the "dungeon."

Keynote speaker, Master Chief Boatswain's Mate and Master Diver Carl



Brashear, spoke of his experiences in Building One. Brashear, made famous in the movie "Men of Honor," recuperated in the hospital after his leg was amputated as the result of a diving accident. Among his many military milestones, he was the first amputee to be restored to full active duty as a deep-sea diver in Naval history. He emphasized the dedication and professionalism of the staff both then and today.

Although rainy weather prevailed, it could not dampen the festive atmosphere as the ceremony concluded with a picnic lunch on Hospital Point.

Library Services Moves to Premier Facility in Building One

By Jane Pellegrino

On August 22, 2003 Library Services celebrated the first anniversary of its move into greatly expanded spaces on the 4th floor of Building One. The newly renovated facility triples the size of the library, and has allowed the library to broaden its services to include a Crew's Library and Patient and Family Resource Center. Capt. Kevin Knoop, Director for Medical Education, marked the opening of the library by presenting an autographed copy of his new book, *Atlas of Emergency Medicine*, to the library at an Open House in October.

Residents returning from their GMO tours are amazed at the transformation! The new library offers excellent



study areas, a conference room, adequate shelving for the Health Sciences Library books and journals, fourteen public access computers, and the same

familiar faces from Building 215. An electronic swipecard system offers the house staff 24/7 access to the library.

Health professionals will find the same excellent collection of books, journals, and audiocassettes in the Health Sciences Library. In the Crew's Library, you will find books, audiobooks, and magazines for professional development, personal growth, or reading pleasure. Patients and their families can access quality health information from both print and electronic resources.

To explore the library's virtual resources visit the library's homepage at <http://www-nmcp.med.navy.mil/library/>. All NMCP staff and alumni are welcome in the library.

NMCP Physicians Take Top Honors at the 37th Annual Uniformed Services Pediatric Seminar

March 16 - 19 2003, Washington, DC

By Jean L. Bonnette

*Lt. Ken Knecht poses with
Dr. Margileth upon receiving
the Andrew Margileth Award*

Each year Army, Navy, and Air Force pediatric physicians from all over the world, submit research manuscripts to compete for the prestigious Margileth Award. The award, named to honor Dr. Andrew Margileth, is awarded for the best pediatric paper by a uniformed service pediatrician documenting clinical findings or assessing clinical diagnostic studies, therapeutic regimens, and outcomes leading to improved quality of health care for children. This is an annual award presented at the Uniformed Services Pediatric Seminar sponsored by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

While many submit manuscripts, only six are chosen as finalists to present their projects at the seminar. Capt. Mark Ralston, a pediatric emergency medicine specialist, and Lt. Ken Knecht, a pediatric

resident, submitted their research collaboration for this year's competition. Their project, titled, "Clinical Efficacy of Levalbuterol Compared to Racemic Albuterol Combined with Ipratropium Bromide in Acute Moderate to Severe Pediatric Asthma: A Randomized Controlled Trial," was selected as one of the six finalists.

The project compared two medication regimens for the treatment of acute asthma attacks in children. Levalbuterol, a new medication, was compared with the standard treatment recommended by the National Institute of Health. The study proved the new medication was equally as effective as the standard treatment, with fewer side effects.

Capt. Ralston, as principle investigator, was to present the research at the seminar



in Washington, DC. Unfortunately, he was deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Lt. Knecht, an associate investigator on the study, stepped in with very short notice, to make the presentation. "The competition was fierce," according to Cmdr. Fred Guyer, Service Line Leader for Pediatric Medicine. "We are all so very proud of Capt. Ralston and the (pediatric and emergency medicine) house staff who helped him do this project..."

NMCP Doctor Wins National Award for Sports Medicine Research

By JO1 Rebecca A. Perron

Adding to his collection of awards received for orthopaedic-related research, Lt. Cmdr. Jon K. Sekiya received the Cabaud Memorial Award July 20 at the annual meeting of the American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine held in San Diego.

Sekiya is the bone and joint research coordinator and a sports medicine staff physician for the Orthopaedic Surgery Department at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth.

"The award is a pretty big honor," Sekiya said. "I competed against physicians across the country, even against previous mentors from Michigan and Pittsburgh. This award really put forth for the Navy, the light on our program. We can be at the forefront of (sports medicine) research here."

Every year, the AOSSM recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to orthopaedic sports medicine. The Cabaud Memorial Award, named in honor of H. Edward Cabaud, is a national award presented for the most outstanding research in

the field of Sports Medicine and Orthopedics. This is the first time this award has been presented to a military doctor since its introduction in 1986.

Sekiya conducted the research that went into the manuscript while completing a one-year fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh's Sport Medicine and Shoulder Fellow Center for Sports Medicine. The research and manuscript, titled "Biomechanical analysis of a double-bundle posterior cruciate ligament and posterolateral corner reconstruction," was completed with the help of four other physicians also in the fellowship program.



Photo Courtesy of the AOSSM

Lt. Cmdr. King Receives Top Resident Instructor Award



Each year, the graduating class at the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences (USUHS) selects a resident for this prestigious award. Lt. Cmdr. King was singled out as the best among all residents who instruct USUHS resident students nationwide.

Lt. Cmdr. Brian King (right) of the General Surgery Department at NMCP, with the Top Resident Instructor Award. Lt. Michael J. Perry (left) initially accepted the award on King's behalf at the USUHS graduation ceremony held in May.

Photo by JO1 Rebecca A. Perron

Clinical Investigation and Research Department (CIRD) Announces the Winners of the 18th Annual Research Competition

By Jean L. Bonnette

The CIRD call for abstracts in December 2002 for the 2003 research competition, met with over fifty submissions, an increase from the previous year. A team of experienced researchers judged the abstracts, and selected twelve projects to be presented orally, and twenty-four for poster presentations.

This year's poster format and venue was changed from that of the past. Cmdr. Brett Hart, head, CIRD, wanted to create a standardized format that afforded ease of setup and clarity of information. The

change in location to the bridge from the parking garage allowed more staff, patients, and visitors to see the result of the participants' research projects. Cmdr. Hart, however, did not get to see the results of his efforts. He was deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom just one day before the poster session.

The two panels of judges had a difficult time selecting this year's winners who were presented with award plaques at the awards luncheon held at the Sand Bar.

"And the winners are"....

Category 1 - IRB-Approved Research Conducted at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (NMCP)

Poster - Robert M. Storer, Addiction Medicine Services

"A simplistic benefit-cost analysis of brief intervention with substance abuse patients."

Oral (trainee) - Lt. Debbie O'Hare, Anesthesiology

"Analgesic efficacy between two different combined spinal epidural techniques used for laboring analgesia."

Oral (staff) - Lt. Cmdr. Joel Stewart, Orthopaedics

"The effects of orally administered glucosamine and chondroitin sulfate on articular cartilage in a canine osteoarthritis model."

Category 2 - Approved Research Conducted at a Facility other than NMCP

Poster - Lt. Darian Rice, Transitional Intern
"Pressure mechanotransduction in isolated resistance arteries."

Oral - Lt. Cmdr. Jon Sekiya, Orthopaedics
"Biochemical analysis of a combined double-posterior cruciate ligament and posterolateral corner reconstruction."

(Continued on page 5)



Research posters drew plenty of interest from staff, patients and visitors.

Photo by Jean L. Bonnette

(Continued from page 4)

Category 3 – Case Reports

Poster – Lt. Jeremy Hammel, Adult Medical Care

“An atypical presentation of GERD five years after Nissen fundoplication.”

Oral – Lt. Cmdr. Abhik Biswas, Pediatric Critical Care Medicine

“Cardiotoxicity associated with intentional ziprasidone and burpropion overdose.”

Category 4 - Outcome, Quality Assurance Reviews and Other Exempt Research

Poster – Lt. Heather Ventura, Adult Medical Care

“Physician documentation of herbal products increases with a passive reminder system.”

Wellness Award

Lt. Sam Wanko, Adult Medical Care
“Gender and ethnic disparities in osteoporosis risk factors and screening.”

Readiness Award

Lt. Cmdr. John Sekiya, Orthopaedics
“Clinical outcomes following combined meniscal transplantation and anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction.”

Wellness Award

Lt. Cmdr. John Sekiya, Orthopaedics
“Clinical outcomes following combined meniscal transplantation and anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction.”



Lt. Debbie O'Hare, center, and Lt. Cmdr. Joel Stewart (on deployment) will represent NMCP at the Navy Wide Competition, held this year at NNMC Bethesda. Also pictured are Capt. Kevin Knoop, left, Dir. for Medical Education and Capt. Harry Tillman, (right) Dir. for the Naval Clinical Investigations Program.

USNavy Photo by HM1 Enrique Escajeda

Lt. Cmdr. Alan Heffner wins “Best Discussant” at the Semifinal 2003 National Emergency Medicine Clinical Pathologic Case Competition

By Cmdr. James V. Ritchie

The Semifinal Competition of the 2003 National Emergency Medicine Clinical Pathologic Case (CPC) Competition was held in Boston on May 28, 2003. It is held annually as a pre-conference activity the day before the 2003 Society for Academic Emergency Medicine (SAEM) Annual Meeting.

Each of the 124 approved emergency medicine residency programs in the U.S. is allowed to submit one case. In addition, they must name a resident who will present the case, and a faculty member who will discuss another program's case if the submission is one of the 50 cases selected for the preliminary competition. NMCP's case was submitted by Lt. Cmdr. Heffner.

The 50 cases were judged on a blind basis by the CPC Task Force, which was comprised of 25 Emergency Medicine faculty. The five best presenters and five best discussants selected from the Semifinal Competition are now invited to participate in the Final Competition held during the 2003 American College of Emergency

Physicians (ACEP) Scientific Assembly in Boston in October 2003.

The CPC Competition is sponsored by ACEP, the Council of Residency Directors, (CORD), the Emergency Medicine Residents Association (EMRA), and SAEM. These organizations feel that this is a wonderful opportunity to encourage residents and faculty to participate in a fun, educational, and spirited competition with other emergency medicine residency programs.

It is truly an honor for Lt. Cmdr. Heffner to be selected and recognized in this national forum. We can now have a new appreciation for how much our residents, the EM program, and

NMCP have benefited from his enthusiasm and expertise in Emergency Medicine.



USNavy photo by HM2 Tina M. Felipe

Portsmouth Welcomes Home Deployed Fleet Hospital 15

Article excerpt attributed to the original article that appeared in *The Flagship*, May 29, 2003

After a 14-hour flight originating in Kuwait City, approximately 270 officers and Sailors assigned to Fleet Hospital 15 and Construction Battalion units 414 and 415 returned to Hampton Roads May 5.

The group completed a 7-½ week deployment to the Middle East where they served at the Kuwaiti Naval Base and in Camp Coyote. The detachment spent their time in the Central Command area of operations in Kuwait, standing by to support forward-deployed operational ground forces participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom with field grade tertiary medical care.

Although they were never called to set up the tent city, which consti-

tutes a forward-deployed hospital, FH-15 still supported the war effort and the overall mission of a fleet hospital during its stay overseas.

"Fleet Hospital 15 provided sick call health care to both U.S. and coalition forces from our base in Camp Coyote," said Capt. Martin Snyder, commanding officer of FH-15. "We used our own ambulances, transport vehicles, medical supplies and other consumables. With our Seabee augmentation providing heavy equipment and logistical support we were pretty self-sufficient." The Sailors from different commands, depart-



ments, clinics and wards proved that Sailors could work together regardless of rank, rate or mission. The Sailors attached to FH-15 never stopped training during this mission, said Snyder.

To date, of the 600-plus medical staff and support personnel who went forward deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, more than 280 have returned home.



Brig. Gen. Moore Highlights Intern Graduation at NMCP

By Cmdr. Edward Simmer, MC, USN, Command Intern Coordinator

On June 27, 2003, with the steps of historic Building One as a backdrop, the 68th Annual Intern Graduation was held at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth. This year's graduating class had 76 interns from general surgery, orthopaedic surgery, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, psychiatry, psychology, and the transitional program.

The ceremony began with the graduating class marching down the steps of Building One in formation. Following the arrival of the official party, including Rear Adm. Thomas Burkhard, Commander of NMCP and the guest speaker, Brig. Gen. Thomas Moore, Jr., Director for Operations, Plans, Logistics, and Engineering at U.S. JFCOM, the program opened with a rousing rendition of the National Anthem performed by HM3 Jaclyn Finger.

After being introduced by Rear Adm. Burkhard, Brig. Gen. Moore spoke regarding the importance of Navy



medicine. He described an incident in May of 1989 when he was injured, and the trust that he had in the Navy doctors and corpsmen who were with him on the ship. He noted that Sailors and Marines put their lives, and the lives of "those they treasure most" - their families - in the hands of Navy doctors. He also reminded the graduates of the need

to set the example as outstanding Naval officers as well as doctors. He quoted President Theodore Roosevelt: "The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred with sweat and dust and blood." In closing, he welcomed the newest class of Navy doctors by saying, "Welcome to the arena - it is an honor to be here, and my great honor to serve with you."

Following this moving speech, the senior intern, Lt. Michael Shusko, himself a former Marine officer, addressed the audience on behalf of the intern class, thanking their many teachers and mentors for their work over the past year. Following the presentation of awards to several interns for their particularly outstanding performance during internship, the Certificates of Graduation were presented, marking the official transition from intern to Navy medical officer.

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Reflecting the operational nature of Navy medicine, and the well-rounded training received by interns at NMCP, this year's interns will be moving on to a variety of challenging duty stations. These include ships, Marine units, Seabee units, further training in undersea medicine and flight surgery, and further residency training. By the time you read this, many of them will already be on the front lines of Navy medicine, and as noted by Brig.Gen. Moore, "in the arena," serving to protect and care for the Marines and Sailors who risk their lives to protect our freedom.

2003 Graduating Intern Class on the steps of Building One.
US Navy Photo by Leslie A. Bridgman



Academic Marketing Team Showcases Excellence in Service and GME Awards

By Suad Jones



Photo by Jean L. Bonnette

An eye-catching showcase of "Excellence in Service and Graduate Medical Education Awards" now brightens the walls of The Charette Health Care Center, main hospital of NMC Portsmouth.

"Academic excellence" is a catchphrase at NMCP these days, thanks to the vision of Capt. Mathew Nathan, MC Deputy Commander, to elevate the academic awareness at our teaching hospital. His initiative in appointing a project manager and a team to work on this vision is promoting a more academic atmosphere at NMCP.

The Academic Marketing team comprised of Capt. Knoop, Director for Medical Education; Suad Jones, Knowledge Leadership Project Manager; Jean Bonnette, Visual Information Specialist; and Michael Waro, Director of Engineering; is a group of professionals with diverse backgrounds, experience, and talents. They have been working diligently for the past six months to showcase the academic achievements and publications of the staff at NMCP.

Among other aspects of this academic marketing project was the display of the staff's publications on large "Scholarly Activity" boards in the waiting rooms and other clinical areas of the main hospital.

The team's main objective is to continue improving the perceptions of NMCP's academic standing and to make our staff,



A typical example of the scholarly activity boards displayed in waiting rooms throughout the hospital.

students, alumni, and the public more aware of NMCP's rich academic environment and the full range of excellent medical services and training programs we offer.

2002 – 2003 Excellence in Graduate Medical Education Award Winners

Teacher of the Year

Cmdr. Myron Yench	Otolaryngology
Lt. Cmdr. Jon Yenari	Obstetrics & Gynecology
Cmdr. Scott W. Helmers	Orthopaedics
Cmdr. Robert T. Ruland	Transitional Internship
Lt. Cmdr. Michael J. Strunc	Pediatrics
Lt. Cmdr. Alan Heffner	Emergency Medicine
Cmdr. Jeffery Cole	Internal Medicine
Lt. Cmdr. Mary Bavaro	Internal Medicine
Capt. Paul A. Lucha	General Surgery
Lt. Cmdr. Hung Chi Kowk	Anesthesiology
Cmdr. Sonia F. Aznar	Psychiatry

Mentor of the Year

Cmdr. Wade Wilde	Emergency Medicine
Capt. Robert E. Blundell, Jr.	General Dental

Naval Medical Center Scores High in Review

© August 30, 2003 The Virginia-Pilot

Portsmouth Naval Medical Center, South Hampton Roads' largest military hospital, aced its recent accreditation review, officials announced Friday.

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations and the Navy's Bureau of Medicine and Surgery Inspector General completed a two-week inspection of the hospital in July. The results were just confirmed, a Navy spokeswoman said.

The hospital was awarded a score of 96 out of 100, without any Type 1 recommendations. Type 1 recommendations rep-



resent deficiencies in one or more performance areas that must be resolved within a specific time period.

Twenty-three percent of teaching hospitals surveyed by the Joint Commission since 2002 received a score of 96 or better,

according to the Navy. The national average score for civilian and military health care facilities is in the upper 80s with several Type 1 recommendations.

According to a Navy news release, one Joint Commission inspector said the Portsmouth hospital was the "best brick and mortar facility" that he had ever seen, "clearly in the top 1 percent of the national health care facilities."

The Bureau of Medicine focuses on the leadership and management of a medical treatment facility while the Joint Commission reviews safety and quality of care for patients, according to hospital officials.

NMCP Residency Training Programs: Annual Update

Anesthesia

Program Director: Cmdr. Benford O. Nance
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Program History

The Naval Medical Center Portsmouth Anesthesiology Residency Training Program is a fully accredited three-year program of specialty training in anesthesiology. The program's goal is to provide Navy Medicine with physician specialists in anesthesiology who have broad experience and can function as consultant anesthesiologists. A wealth of clinical material is available to the residents at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (NMCP).

Beginning in the clinical base year (PGY1), prospective residents are given a strong clinical internship to include exposure to the subspecialties of surgery and

medicine. Training specifically designed for the military physician is incorporated into this year for those residents who accept Navy internships. Clinical anesthesia training includes preoperative evaluation and preparation of patients; planning and execution of rational and safe anesthetics; prevention, evaluation, and treatment of perioperative complications; and postoperative management. It also includes consultation in respiratory therapy, critical care medicine, emergency resuscitation, and pain management. Residents in this program assume greater responsibility, and are assigned to more complex cases as they matriculate.

Program Status/Update

The educational staff in the Department of Anesthesiology at NMCP is second to none, and invests countless hours in the growth and development of each resident. The staff is comprised of both military and civilian anesthesiologists having a wealth of experience and a wide range of subspecialty training.

The training program is accredited for six residents in each year. The first year of

anesthesia training is spent at NMCP learning the basics of anesthesia. In the second and third years, our residents train in the subspecialties of anesthesia, and spend time training at our affiliate institutions, University of Virginia Medical Center and Washington Hospital Center.

In addition to direct teaching by the attending staff during perioperative patient management, there is a rigorous didactic schedule for anesthesiology residents at NMCP. The academic schedule includes numerous conferences, lectures, and discussions. These academic sessions integrate teaching from the attending staff, visiting professors, and residents. Administrative skills are developed through resident participation in the weekly lecture series and through administrative duties during the senior resident year. The program is designed to progressively increase the resident's knowledge and his ability to safely conduct increasingly complicated anesthetics. This training enables our residents to be well prepared for the written and oral certification process of the American Board of Anesthesiology.

Dental Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Program Director: Capt. Vernon A. Sellers
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VASellers@mar.med.navy.mil

Program History

The program recently relocated to a new facility at Charette Health Care Center. This move centralized the entire Dental Department for the first time in thirty years. Prior to the move, the OMFS section was in Building 215, while the remainder of the department was in Building One. We now have all dental specialists available for consultation: four staff oral surgeons, two maxillofacial prosthodontists, an oral facial pain specialist, an endodontist, a periodontist, an orthodontist, and a pedodontist. The department also features a state of the art dental laboratory.

The leadership of the Dental Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Program (OMFS)

residency program changed in July 1999. Capt. Vernon A. Sellers replaced Capt. Ed Amrhein as program director. Capt. Amrhein was director from 1996 to 1999, and is currently assigned as the Commanding Officer, Naval Dental Clinic Far East in Yokuska, Japan.

Program Status/Update

Currently, there are eight OMFS residents with two completing the program this summer. The program successfully completed the American Dental Association's Commission on Dental Accreditation site visit in May 2000 with many accolades. Among these were for the outstanding relationship between the medical and dental departments, and for providing

an exceptional training experience in surgery, anesthesiology, cosmetic, and reconstructive surgery. Capt. Sellers was selected to participate as an Accreditation Site Visitor for the American Dental Association in review of all OMFS residency programs in the United States. Capt. Webber and Sellers were requested to participate as examiners/authors for the National Oral and Maxillofacial Inservice Exam given by the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

Future plans/directions

The program is in the process of developing original research projects involving cosmetic surgery, Botox, and dental implant reconstruction.

Emergency Medicine

Program Director: Cmdr. James V. Ritchie
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Program History

Bolstered by a diverse, energetic faculty, and innovative training opportunities, the Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (NMCP) Emergency Medicine Residency is in an exciting period of growth. Our experienced faculty includes world experts in modern combat trauma emergency treatment, pediatric advanced life support, and medical imaging, as well as individuals fellowship-trained in toxicology, EMS, and pediatric emergency medicine. Our faculty lecture nationally and regionally, are summoned by name to advise line admirals and generals on military casualty treatment, and are active in regional EMS planning.

Program Status/Update

Our challenging curriculum includes a full month of emergency ultrasound training, leading to full credentialing in this modality. In addition to training in our state of the art 28-bed ED, residents spend six months at other local high-acuity civilian ED's. They learn toxicology at the unsurpassed New York Poison Center, as well as from our resident toxicologist, who trained at Rocky Mountain Poison Center. Our procedural laboratory training is unmatched, including a monthly vivarium lab

and a bimonthly cadaver lab. Our EMS training includes experience in tactical EMS and urban search and rescue.

Our residents and faculty continue to be active in research and writing. Lt. Sisson, MC, delivered an oral presentation of his research at the National Society for Academic Emergency Medicine meeting in Boston, to accolades. Capt. Ralston's, MC, research on asthma treatment was also presented nationally. Capt. Knoop's, world-renowned *Atlas of Emergency Medicine* is in its second edition, and a variety of chapters for other national texts are in press.

Several individuals have received local and national teaching awards. This past year, Dr. Ralston won the Military Pediatric Medicine Achievement Award, and Lt. Cmdr. Heffner, MC, won Best Faculty Discussant honors at the National Society for Academic Emergency Medicine Case Presentation Competition.

Our program recently graduated its 11th class of residents to a variety of exciting billets worldwide. The program has also changed leadership; after five years of directing the program, Dr. Kevin Knoop accepted a promotion to Director for Graduate Medical Education, and Dr. Jim Ritchie became Program Director in 2002.



Also, Cmdr. Joel Roos, MC, joined our faculty as department head in 2002, bringing a wealth of talent and leadership. Nine of our fifteen faculty have deployed within the last two years, in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. During the deployments, reserve support has been outstanding – many of our reservists reporting from academic EM programs. Our entire faculty has returned – most within four months of deploying. The combat experience was invaluable, and the lessons learned are being applied with impressive results.

General Surgery

Program Director: Cmdr. Beth R. Jaklic
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Program History

The General Surgery Residency Program at NMCP was established in 1950. The program finished between three and four residents per year from about 1956 until 1989, when the program became permanently approved for two categorical positions each year. The department has enjoyed a rich heritage through the years. Three of our former residents went on to become flag officers. One of them, Vice Adm. Hagan, eventually became Surgeon General of the Navy. A total of nine graduates over the years have gone on to assume department head or program director positions at university and military hospitals throughout the United States.

The hospital expanded rapidly after the move into the new hospital (currently Building 215) in 1960. There was a very active research dog lab during the early 1960's doing studies of pump oxygenators and left heart bypass for aortic arch repair. On one occasion, a car accident victim came in with a severe aortic arch injury, and was saved using the dog lab pump oxygenator while replacing the arch with graft.

Program Status/Update

The surgery residency continues to have a strong basic science and clinical academic curriculum. The clinical and bench research opportunities continue to increase under the direction of Capt. Paul Lucha. Our didactic academics have benefited from the creation of an academic day each week. With this,

residents are excused from all clinical duties to participate in academic sessions consisting of basic science and textbook review, morbidity and mortality conferences, grand rounds and subspecialty presentations, as well as in depth preoperative conferences and ward rounds.

We continue to have a strong affiliation with Eastern Virginia Medical School where we send residents for training in trauma, transplant, cardiothoracic surgery and community surgery. Our department has specialists in colon and rectal surgery, vascular surgery, thoracic surgery, pediatric surgery, surgical oncology, critical care and trauma surgery, and advanced laparoscopy. Our residents graduate with above average operative case volumes encompassing a broad mix of cases. Portsmouth graduates go on to board certification with a first time pass rate of over 90 percent.

Many of our residents pursue subspecialty training with fellowships after their initial fleet utilization tours. Our residents have trained in pediatric surgery, plastic surgery, hand surgery, critical care and trauma surgery, cardiothoracic surgery, vascular surgery, colorectal surgery, surgical oncology, and advanced laparoscopic surgery. These are the surgeons who continue to be leaders in Navy graduate medical education.

Two significant changes have occurred in the last year. One is the turnover in residency program directors. Capt. Liston stepped down in order to move on to the Uniformed Services University of Health Sci-

ences and a staff role at National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda. Cmdr. Beth Jaklic has taken over in his place. The other major change involves the adoption of the newly legislated 80-hour workweek for all residents. This has forced us to look closely at our way of teaching and practicing surgery, and has allowed us to identify areas where the residents' time could be used more efficiently by eliminating some of their previous non-physician duties.

Future plans/directions

There are several things in store for the upcoming year that will improve and broaden our residents' training. A new cardiothoracic surgery program is under development and set to begin in January 2004. Residents will become involved in this program about six months later. Starting this fall, we will implement a web-based laparoscopy course that will allow residents to get many of the basics accomplished outside of the operating room, and should maximize their operative learning experience. We will also begin a bioskills laboratory within the next six months, which will include fresh cadaver dissections for surgical anatomy review. Finally, the Navy has granted us an additional billet in order to allow one of our surgery residents to pursue a research year between the PGY-2 and PGY-3 clinical years. This means that one out of every two graduating residents will have participated in a formal research program during their residency.

Internal Medicine

Program Director: Cmdr. Lisa S. Inouye
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Program History

The Internal Medicine Program was established at NMCP in the late 1950s. The most recent accreditation review was in 2002 where the program received a full five-year accreditation with no citations. The program is approved for 40 residents – an increase from 39 residents last year.

The current program director is Cmdr. L. Inouye, who replaced Capt. Stephen Beuttel in 1999. The chief of medicine is Capt. Barton Gumpert. Lt. Cmdr. Margaret Perusse Oberman held the position of intern coordinator until July 2003, when she became the transitional internship program director. Lt. Cmdr. Ronald Miller



took over as the intern coordinator (associate program director for interns).

Program Status/Update

The NMCP Internal Medicine Residency Program is a robust educational experience. In addition to a broad spectrum of patients, the program continues to have an exceptional faculty. Subspecialists in allergy/immunology, cardiology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, hematology/oncology, infectious diseases, nephrology, neurology, pulmonary medicine & critical care, and rheumatology are stationed at NMCP, and student rotations are available in each of these specialties. Additionally, the program boasts a full complement of general internists, including two geriatricians, and the specialty leader for Internal

(Continued on page 11)



**NMC PORTSMOUTH INTERNAL MEDICINE
JEOPARDY TEAM**
Lt. Austin Parker, Lt. Benjamin Fischer, Lt. Patrick Young

(Continued from page 10)

Medicine, Cmdr. Christopher Culp.

The program had a banner year in 2002-2003. At the Navy American College of Physicians (ACP) meeting in October 2002, NMCP residents were awarded 1st and 2nd place for oral research presentations, and 2nd place for poster vignette presentation. The NMCP Internal Medicine Jeopardy team took the 1st Place Silver Cup from NNMCP by winning the Medical Quiz Competition. At the Virginia ACP Associates Day in January 2003, three NMCP IM residents were selected for further presentation at the Virginia Chapter scientific meeting. All three residents received awards: 1st and 3rd place for oral presentations and 2nd place for poster presentation. At the hospital research competition, residents presented 12 abstracts and received 1st place for Category 4 Research (surveys), and also took the "health and wellness" research award. The NMCP Internal Medicine Jeopardy team played at

the national ACP meeting, narrowly defeated by the Massachusetts team. Two resident abstracts were also accepted for presentation at the National Society of General Internal Medicine meeting. This meeting is highly competitive, with fewer than half of all abstracts accepted for presentation, and nearly all abstracts are faculty research. In March, seven residents presented posters, and three did oral presentations at the NMCP hospital competition. Three residents received awards for case vignette, health/wellness, and exempt studies (chart review/survey).

There are plenty of opportunities for housestaff and staff to be involved with the specialty's professional organization. There are three Navy ACP associate representatives, and three Virginia ACP associate representatives. Additionally, Lt. Cmdr. Patrick Young from NMCP was recently selected to represent all three military branches on the national ACP Associates Council. This council has only 14 resident representatives in internal medicine from across the

country, and one military representative.

Future plans/directions

An innovative "day float" program has been implemented to provide optimal patient care while complying with the new ACGME workweek restrictions. The initial response has been favorable.

The Internal Medicine program plans to expand the geriatrics curriculum and start a new mentoring program for residents and interns. The program plans on improved efficiency in 2003 with a new Web-based evaluation system for rotation evaluations, procedure documentation, lecture attendance, and more.

Additionally, we welcome back Cmdr. Kevin Zawacki, interventional cardiologist, who will serve as the chief of cardiology in anticipation of the new Cardiothoracic Surgery Program.

Our residents, interns and staff looked sharp in dress uniforms at the Awards Dinner.



Obstetrics and Gynecology

Program History

We have a very long and glorious history in obstetrics and gynecology, formally being established when the ACGME began to certify programs. Many of the leaders in obstetrics and gynecology trained or were faculty here.

Program Status/Update

Currently, the Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (NMCP) has the distinction of being the busiest women's health facility in the Department of Defense. We deliver over 4,000 babies and perform over 1,400

surgical procedures each year. We currently have a very strong clinical faculty with representation in all of the subspecialties (three maternal fetal medicine specialists, two gynecologic oncologists, and two reproductive endocrinologists), as well as a very active general OB/GYN faculty of thirteen. We have six new faculty joining us including Capt. Magann, who is recognized worldwide for his research in OB/GYN, as well as Lt. Cmdr. Amy O'Boyle who is a fellowship-trained urogynecologist. We also have five nurse midwives and four nurse practitioners.

Program Director: Capt. Alan I. Shapiro
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During the last academic year, all of our residents pursued topics of interest or interesting cases, and presented them during Academic Day in June. We had two of our staff deployed during the last military action, and two obstetrician/gynecologist reservists recalled in their absence.

Future plans/directions

With the addition of Capt. Magann, we expect to see more involvement of our residents and faculty in research.



Orthopaedics

Program History

The Department of Orthopaedics merged with Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Podiatry, Rheumatology, and

Physical Medicine to become the Bone and Joint Service Line in 2001. This has allowed us to provide coordinated multidisciplinary care for musculoskeletal disorders, and gives residents a larger scope of experience.

Program Status/Update

Orthopaedics currently has 18 orthopaedic

staff with fellowship-trained subspecialists in total joints, pediatrics, hand, foot and ankle, spine, oncology, and sports medicine. We take three residents per year, and have a specialized curriculum for "OrthoTrack" PGY-1 surgical interns. The program has had no Part I or Part II board failures in over seven years.

Our program has an academic day each week for didactic and bioskills training. We are currently renovating our bioskills lab, and will have our first virtual reality arthroscopy simulator soon.

The Orthopaedic Department has had articles published in Journal of Bone and

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Joint Surgery, Journal of Orthopedic Trauma, and Foot and Ankle International within the last six months, and has many other projects accepted for future publication.

The program received a five-year accreditation in 2002 by the ACGME.

Future plans/directions

Future directions include the opening of the Orthopedic Ambulatory Surgery Center, implementation of a mobile wireless electronic medical record system, establishing fleet-based sport medicine centers, and establishing a comprehensive spine center.

Otolaryngology

Program History

The Otolaryngology/Head and Neck Surgery (OTO/HNS) Program is a five-year residency leading to board eligibility/board certification in this diverse specialty. The residency program was established in 1978, and has maintained full accreditation status since its inception. It consists of twelve months of clinical assignments in surgery, followed by forty-eight months of otolaryngology training. The program at NMCP is partially affiliated with the otolaryngology residency program at Eastern Virginia Medical School. One hundred percent of our graduating residents have passed their Certification Board exams on their first attempt.

Program Status/Update

The OTO/HNS Program at NMCP has numerous experienced faculty members who are able to offer comprehensive care to active

duty and retired military personnel and their dependents in the Virginia/North Carolina region. Two fellowship-trained neurotologists offer expertise in the treatment of hearing and balance disorders, and there is a very active Cochlear Implant and Implantable Hearing Aid Program as well. Other staff have fellowship training in Head and Neck Surgery and Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.

The department has over 12,000 square feet of clinic space with state of the art equipment. Evaluation and treatment of patients with disorders affecting the ear, nose, throat, head, and neck is done in outpatient, ambulatory surgery, and inpatient settings.

In addition to the physician staff, there are specialty nurses, audiologists, speech pathologists, and allergy support personnel, who work as a team to coordinate all aspects of our patients' treatment.

Program Director: Lt. Col. Eric J. Simko
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Future Plans/Directions

The department has recently added fellowship-trained surgeons in the areas of microvascular reconstructive surgery (Lt. Col. William Magdycz) and Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (Lt. Cmdr. Jenifer Henderson). A comprehensive training program in otolaryngologic allergy is also being developed which will allow residents to sit for the Allergy Board exam at the completion of their residency.

Several residents and staff are on numerous specialty committees at both the regional and national level. Capt. L. Frederick Lassen, our senior neurotologist, is currently the President of the Virginia Society of Otolaryngology. Our department is very active with academic participation at both the regional and national levels.

Pain Management

Program History

The United States Navy's only Pain Management Fellowship began in 1991 after the American Board of Medical Specialties approved the American Board of Anesthesiology's decision to certify training in Pain Management. The first Fellow began that year. The Fellowship received ACGME accreditation in 1994, and has enjoyed a 100% pass rate for all graduates on their written board examinations. Dr. Robert J. Mendez has been the program director since 1994, and received a five-year accreditation with zero discrepancies on the last RRC conducted in 2001.

Program Status/Update

Since its inception, the Fellowship has remained on the cutting edge of new interventional pain developments. These include training in all invasive procedures such as discography, radiofrequency ablation, IDET, implantable devices, and most recently, nucleoplasty. It remains the busiest pain clinic in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Although the focus of the Fellowship is invasive in nature, the clinic remains multidisciplinary. Services provided include health psychology, physical and occupational therapy, physical medicine and rehabilitation, healing touch, guided imagery, and pastoral

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care. A close relationship is maintained with the Oncology service, which regularly consults the Pain service for assistance with cancer patients. Fellowship training includes a one-week course in Pain Practice Management sponsored by the Society for Pain Practice Management. The program remains active in research, and each Fellow is expected to participate in the research process.

Despite the deployment of the majority of the Anesthesia Department in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, the Fellowship remained on track without decrement in patient procedures and encounters.

Pediatrics

Program History

The Pediatric Residency Training Program at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (NMCP) celebrated its 50th anniversary in 1999. It has graduated 208 residents as of 2003. The residency is fully accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education. Over the past 20 years, 95 percent of NMCP graduates have been board certified by the American Board of Pediatrics, and 93 percent have passed board certification exams on their first attempt. This compares very favorably with the national average of 92 percent board certification and 80 percent passing on the first attempt.

The Pediatric Department has over 50,000 outpatient visits and 1,500 hospital admissions per year. It has a 24-bed inpatient unit, a 31-bed Level III NICU, and a 9-bed PICU. The PICU, the first of its kind at NMCP, was established in 2000.

Our faculty consists of 29 full-time physicians in addition to nurse practitioners and allied health personnel. In-house pediatric subspecialties include pulmonol-



ogy, hematology/oncology, behavioral pediatrics, neurodevelopmental disabilities, neonatology, intensive care, infectious diseases, gastroenterology, neurology, endocrinology, cardiology, pediatric emergency medicine, and academic pediatrics.

Our residency program is approved for eight residents at each year level. Most of our faculty is considered to be affiliate faculty at both Eastern Virginia Medical

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School and Uniformed University Health Sciences. Our residents rotate at Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters.

Program Status/Update

Our department had six publications during this past academic year. Capt. Mark Ralston (Peds ED) and Lt. Cmdr. Ken Knecht (Peds Resident) were recipients of the Margileth Award, a National Research Award given at the Uniformed Services Pediatric Services Seminar.

Future plans/directions

Over the next year, we are going to be instituting a new case-based curriculum that we are extremely excited about! It will involve pre and post tests, and will include structure board preparation tools. The first two weeks of the pilot program have been quite successful. A new Medical Informatics curriculum has been successful, and we are designing a curriculum in Managed Care Medicine that will soon be undergoing trial.

Psychiatry

Program History

The Psychiatry Program at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (NMCP) was begun in the early 1970s. The program is known for the outstanding quality of its graduates who are well prepared to manage any psychiatry billet in the Navy. Our residents have an exceptional educational experience through our support of the Fleet and the strong didactic program. While they have always had a strong learn-by-doing experience in service to the Fleet's active duty members, retirees, and their dependents; we have significantly enhanced our didactic experience over the last decade, and now have more than six hours per week of dedicated lectures. Over the past ten years, NMCP psychiatry residents have passed their specialty board examinations with a pass rate higher than the national average.

Residents can enter this four-year program either at the PGY-1 or PGY-2 level. While many of our PGY-1 residents continue through the program, others chose our transitional-style internship as ideal preparation for a General Medical Officer, Undersea Medical Officer, or Flight Surgeon experience.

Program Status/Update

Residents benefit from a dedicated teaching staff that provides close supervision while they learn and practice in hospital, clinic, operational, and research settings. Opportunities abound to take services "to the deck plate" as well as having frequent contact with national experts. With specialists in addiction, forensics, psychotherapy, psychopharmacology, and child psychiatry, our staff provides a top-notch education for the residents.

Program Director: Cmdr. Gail H. Manos
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Our residents have won many awards, and have presented at local and national research competitions and conferences. At the most recent annual meeting of Navy psychiatrists, more NMCP residents made research presentations than any other Navy psychiatry training program. One of our residents won the annual award given to the best military psychiatry resident research paper.

Future plans/directions

We anticipate moving into newly renovated spaces on the first floor of Building 215 in spring '04. While providing the highest quality care to our patients, we will continue to increase the academic productivity of the department through research and local, regional, and national level presentations.

Predoctoral Internship in Clinical Psychology

Program Director: Lt. Cmdr. Maggie A. Lluy
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Program History

The internship program at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (NMCP) began in 1990, an era during which the vast majority of new programs were initially awarded partial accreditation by the American Psychological Association. The NMCP program had the distinction of being fully accredited during its first year at a time when the staff was also pre-occupied by the requirements of Desert Storm.

As is customary for Navy psychology internships, the training director, Dr. Leo Kormann, was a civilian. He remained the program director until his retirement in July 2003. At the time of its genesis, the Navy's need for clinical psychologists exceeded its ability to recruit fully licensed practitioners from the civilian sector, thus prompting two new programs, one at Portsmouth, and the other at San Diego.

The internship has trained from two to five interns per year, and has graduated 48 from the program since its beginning. Interns have received intensive training in four major clinical areas: health psychology, inpatient psychiatry/psychology, outpatient psychology, and psycho-diagnostic testing. Of the three existing psychology internships, the Portsmouth program has had the highest percentage of its graduates remaining on active duty beyond their obligatory time.

Program Status/Update

The predoctoral internship in clinical psychology is a 12-month program that prepares graduates for practice as "residents in psychology," as is required for licensure. It is designed to attract civilian graduate students in professional psy-

chology. They must have an internship as a requirement for their doctoral degree. It prepares them for the responsibilities of residency as well as those of a Navy psychologist. The interns wear the rank of naval lieutenants and are obligated to four years of active duty. One year is at NMCP, and the following three are at any Navy medical treatment facility to which the graduated intern may be assigned.

Future plans/directions

The program will become inactive for a period of at least one year beginning in the summer of 2004, in order to accommodate changes in the recruiting structure for clinical psychologists in the Navy. The interim program director is Cmdr.(sel) Margaret Lluy.

Radiology

Program Director: James C. Mosure, MS, MD
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JCMosure@mar.med.navy.mil

Program History

The NMCP Radiology Residency Program was officially accredited as a four-year program by the ACGME on October 22, 2002. We selected five first-year radiology residents at the JSGMESB, and two second-year transfers were subsequently approved and started on July 1, 2003.

Capt. Sharon Wallace, MD, the chairman of the Radiology Department at that time, initiated the radiology residency concept at NMCP. In July of 2002, James C. Mosure, MS, MD, was hired as the first program director. He is a fellowship-trained musculoskeletal radiologist who has worked in the Hampton Roads area since 1989 in conjunction with the EVMS residency program. He brings years of clinical, academic, and administrative experience to the NMCP program. Cmdr. William Craig, MD, the initial assistant program director, was also involved in the early phases of program development. The current assistant program director is Lt. Cmdr. Stephanie Bernard, MD, back from her recent deployment to the Gulf War. Lt. Cmdr. Shaun Grant, MD, is in charge of

medical student education and elective rotations within our department. He is also the interim chairman in our department during this ambitious transition prior to the transfer of Cmdr. Lawrence Lee LeClair, MD, in August 2003.

Program Status/Update

The Radiology Department has been progressively restructured over the last year, and is evolving from a clinical to an academic program. Subsection heads have been identified and are involved with the development of their core curriculums, lectures, and subsection workflow and organization. A "systems based" approach espoused by the ACGME, will benefit our residents and further educate our staff. Ultimately, this will translate into an elevated level of service and quality of radiology for the patients and clinical departments at NMCP.

Future plans/directions

In our case, future plans are current plans. A Radiology Department intranet site is being designed with the support of

MID, to provide a one-stop resource for all departmental and residency program needs. The site will provide a focused source for all didactic information available to the residents; departmental digital educational material and other NMCP resources including links to the library tools, and links to offsite learning.

The modern challenge for teaching programs across the country is to maintain the quality of education in the face of cost containment and limited resource allocation. The military medical system has a potential advantage with inherent integration and a vast array of system resources. In an effort to fully utilize these resources, we anticipate the frequent use of video conferencing and PC-based educational material. This will allow multi-site access to teachers from facilities such as USUHS and Bethesda. We have verbal agreement for a reciprocal arrangement with the EVMS radiology residency program to share visiting professor lectures. This will effectively double the number of quality lectures.

Transitional Year Internship Program

Program Director: Lt. Cmdr. Margaret P. Oberman
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MPOberman@mar.med.navy.

Program history

The Transitional Year Internship Program (TI) at NMCP was first established in 1985. The program started with only six interns, one of whom happens to be our current GME Director, Capt. Kevin Knoop! Lt. Cmdr. Bonnie Potter, the first transitional program director (TYPD), is today, a retired Two-Star Admiral! The program is now one of the largest and most popular internships in the Navy, attracting many of the top HPSP and USUHS graduates.

The TI program is designed for those medical school graduates who desire a broad-based year of training prior to an operational tour, have chosen a career specialty in an area with a prerequisite of one year of broad-based clinical education (e.g. emergency medicine, anesthesiology, radiology, etc.), or who are undecided on a specialty. The program at NMCP is unique because of the many opportunities to work with the local flight surgery, undersea medicine and GMO communities, and its extreme flexibility and depth of elective choices. This allows interns to tailor their educational experience to their needs and goals. In 1999, under the leadership of one of the more illustrious program directors, Cmdr. T. K. Tandy, the TI Program received a five-year accreditation from the ACGME. Currently BUMED has authorized 25 transitional positions (out of 73 in-

tern billets) at NMCP.

Program Status/Update

Mrs. Bobbie Carroll has been the anchor for the TI Program, acting as the Program Coordinator since 1995. Dr. Meg Oberman was selected as the new TYPD at NMCP effective with the close of the academic year on 30 June 2003. Cmdr. Elizabeth Tonon, MC, the current TYPD, has assumed the role of Navy Intern Specialty Leader, but will remain at NMCP to provide any required assistance for the transitional program. Lt. Cmdr. Ashley Schroeder, MC, who has been the Assistant TYPD for the last two years, and intimately involved in all transitional program issues, will continue in this position. This will also ensure continuity of the program leadership. Dr. Oberman's experience in administration and graduate medical education in the Internal Medicine Department, her exceptional organizational skills, and especially her dedication and enthusiasm for the well-being and education of the interns, make us fortunate to have her as the new TYPD.

Future Plans/Directions

The Transitional Internship has been very well received by current and past interns. This is substantiated by periodic meetings with the program director, monthly rota-

tion and faculty evaluations, twice yearly confidential internship evaluations covering the program content, structure and personnel, and also a questionnaire sent out yearly to previous graduates of the Transitional Internship from the previous five years. Changes to the internship are made based on the recommendations from the interns themselves. For example, our noon lecture series is now weekly instead of twice a month, and they are continuously updated to provide interns with an appropriate core curriculum based on operational medicine. Changes to the program also may be mandated by the ACGME. For example, we will be monitoring all rotations to ensure that the interns can maintain an 80-hour average workweek. Additionally, we are developing new ways to teach and document compliance with the core competency requirements, including mini-CEX exams and global evaluations that focus on the "practice based learning" and "systems based practice" competencies.

This year, Dr. Oberman will institute a mentoring program in which each intern will be paired with a staff member who is practicing in the intern's proposed specialty. This will provide the intern with better insight into the lifestyle and requirements for such a career.

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